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Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-second to fifty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Dominican Republic

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

2006 IPCC Guidelines	<i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i>
BUR	biennial update report
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICA	international consultation and analysis
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LULUCF	land use, land-use change and forestry
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
non-Annex I Party	Party not included in Annex I to the Convention
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Background and mandate

1. COP 16 decided to conduct, under the SBI, ICA of BURs from non-Annex I Parties, in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty, with the aim of increasing the transparency of the mitigation actions and their effects reported by those Parties.¹
2. COP 17 adopted the ICA modalities and guidelines² and decided that the first round of ICA would be conducted for developing country Parties commencing within six months of the submission of the first round of BURs.³
3. According to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the ICA process consists of two steps: technical analysis of non-Annex I Parties' BURs by teams of technical experts,

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

³ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 58(a).

resulting in a summary report for each Party; and FSV, to which the BURs and summary reports serve as input.⁴

4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened, from 5 to 6 November 2021 in Glasgow at SBI 52–55, the eleventh FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the following seven non-Annex I Parties for which there was a BUR and final summary report⁵ by 31 August 2021: Cambodia, Dominican Republic, India, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Oman, Tajikistan and Uruguay.

5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Yeonchul Yoo, and the SBI Rapporteur, Constantinos Cartalis, comprised two 90-minute sessions.

6. As one of the participating Parties, the Dominican Republic received 13 written questions in advance of the FSV workshop⁶ from Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. This FSV record for the Dominican Republic summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its first BUR,⁷ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. On 5 November 2021, the Dominican Republic made a short statement⁸ on its first BUR. The statement was followed by a question and answer session.

8. The Dominican Republic was represented by Luz Alcántara from the National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism.

9. The Dominican Republic presented its nationally determined contribution target under the Paris Agreement, submitted in September 2017, which is to reduce its emissions by 25 per cent by 2030 compared with the 2010 level, conditional upon adequate and predictable support, readily accessible climate finance mechanisms and corrections to the failure of market mechanisms.

10. The Dominican Republic highlighted that its total GHG emissions in 2015 were 35,486.03 Gg CO₂ eq and they increased between 1990 and 2015 by 18.9 per cent without emissions and removals from LULUCF and by 43.0 per cent with emissions and removals from LULUCF, owing mainly to emissions from the energy sector, which accounts for 62.7 per cent of total GHG emissions. Most of the emissions from the energy sector in 2015 (99.8 per cent) were from the combustion of fossil fuels. Within the energy combustion sector, energy industries are the most important subcategory (contributing 44.8 per cent of emissions), followed by transport (34.4 per cent), manufacturing industries and construction (12.4 per cent), residential and commercial (7.1 per cent) and other sectors (1.3 per cent). Emissions in the energy sector increased by 18.1 per cent between 2010 and 2015 as a result of increased economic growth and higher energy demand in the country, in particular for electricity generation and road transportation (both passenger and freight).

11. The Dominican Republic presented key policies and measures for achieving its target, including Law 253-12, which introduced a tax based on the carbon dioxide emitted by a vehicle for each kilometre travelled, and Law 57-07, which provides incentives for renewable energy generation for a cleaner energy matrix. Among the nationally appropriate mitigation actions, there are six registered projects and a seventh project in the planning phase. The areas covered by the registered projects include tourism, waste, energy efficiency, emission reduction on pig farms, blue carbon, and low-carbon coffee production. In addition, the Party

⁴ Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 3.

⁵ The BURs and summary reports for each ICA cycle are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-reports>, respectively.

⁶ As per decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 6.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2020/TASR.1/DOM.

⁸ The Dominican Republic also provided a pre-recorded presentation relating to its BUR, available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmUQb7hDa2s&list=PLtD6YOC_kbMhZePZEIS6Rfcb0KeHSqDI&index=1.

explained that there are 14 registered clean development mechanism projects in various sectors and, if all 14 are implemented, the annual GHG emission reduction is expected to be 1.11 Mt CO₂ eq. Sectoral mitigation actions that will be implemented between 2021 and 2025 were also presented and include cleaner energy generation, more sustainable transport systems and actions relating to the agriculture, forestry and other land use, and waste sectors.

12. Furthermore, the Dominican Republic provided information on the national MRV system, which was established by decree as a result of the initiative for climate action transparency. The Party is currently working on the implementation of the decree, aiming for more formal and transparent institutional arrangements for mitigation actions, the national GHG inventory and the submission of national communications and the biennial transparency report.

13. The Dominican Republic presented its capacity-building needs, in particular to:

(a) Enhance national capacity for developing the institutional framework to support the implementation of a national MRV system;

(b) Develop reporting templates for mitigation and adaptation actions;

(c) Establish an archiving system to document information relating to the inventory, including activity data and emission factors and establish inventory quality assurance and quality control processes;

(d) Strengthen national capacity to develop country-specific emission factors and estimate and report emissions and assumptions in the land sector;

(e) Strengthen national capacity to collate and report details of all mitigation actions, including information on the title, nature of the action, coverage, quantitative goals and progress indicators;

(f) Strengthen national capacity to identify adequate mitigation actions and their potential to reduce GHG emissions in various sectors.

14. Following the statement, the following Parties made interventions commending the Dominican Republic on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, European Union, Germany, India, Japan, United Kingdom and United States of America. The questions related to:

(a) Experience gained from using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines;

(b) Lessons learned from establishing a national MRV system;

(c) Challenges in compiling a national GHG inventory covering the most recent years;

(d) Challenges in estimating GHG emissions in the waste sector;

(e) Challenges during the technical analysis of the BUR relating to the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic;

(f) The level of success in installing wind power generation in the country;

(g) Prioritization of the capacity-building needs of the country.

15. In response, the Dominican Republic explained that:

(a) Using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines was challenging, as GHG emissions from previous inventories needed to be recalculated. However, this was also an opportunity for developing expertise within the country;

(b) The MRV system was implemented under a national decree and will facilitate the flow of information within the public sector, for example, through the sharing of data from the energy and waste sectors. In addition, agreements are being developed with the private sector to allow for the flow of information, in particular for the industrial processes and product use sector;

(c) The GHG inventory covered 2010–2015, as it was due to be submitted in 2017 or 2018; however, owing to difficulties in gathering data, it was submitted in 2019;

(d) It is challenging to obtain activity data for estimating GHG emissions in the waste sector, as activity data are not available for each municipality, so indirect data are used. Work is continuing to improve the flow of data from the municipalities through an established data management system, starting by creating a waste directorate within the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Currently there are no managed waste disposal systems in the country. The cities of Santo Domingo and Santiago de los Caballeros are working on the implementation of managed solid waste disposals sites, which will allow better access to activity data;

(e) The technical analysis of the BUR during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic was conducted virtually, which was challenging. However, there was fluent communication and sharing of information between the team of technical experts and the national team, which was useful for understanding problems in the submission and learning lessons for future submissions of national communications, BURs and biennial transparency reports;

(f) The Dominican Republic is working on transitioning to renewable energy (hydropower, wind and solar energy) in order to achieve its nationally determined contribution energy sector goal. A total of 23 per cent of the energy generated comes from renewable sources and the Party aims to obtain 35 per cent of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2030;

(g) Capacity-building for the national GHG inventory preparation is needed for both the public and private sectors in order to standardize the data generated, with the hope that in the future the development of the GHG inventory will be undertaken by national experts.

16. The statement and subsequent interventions are accessible via the broadcast of the workshop.⁹

17. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur congratulated the Dominican Republic for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the first round of its ICA process. He thanked the Dominican Republic and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁹ Available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQXlgXE9j8I.